

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.132

I, Debasis Dash, declare and state that:

1. I am one of the joint inventors of United States Patent Application number 09/539,032 filed on 30 March 2000, in the name of Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India.
2. I am fully aware of the present application and its file history, including the Office Action mailed on June 4, 2008.
3. I am an expert in the field of computational biology, which is the subject matter of the present application. My curriculum vitae is enclosed herewith as Exhibit A.
4. I understand that the pending claims stand rejected as allegedly being anticipated by Bruccoleri et al. (*Nucl. Acids. Res.* 26:4482-4486, 1998). However, the method disclosed in the above captioned application is distinct from the cited reference for the following reasons:
 - a. The software used to perform the protocols disclosed in the present application and the cited reference are different.
 - b. The unique end result disclosed in the instant application can be achieved in half the number of steps as compared to the citation,
 - c. Even short peptide sequences of protein can be traced with the disclosed technique, the minimum sensitivity being 4 amino acids and the maximum being any number. However, no details related to the application of their technique to the short peptide sequences or the sensitivity of the process is disclosed in the citation.

- d. From the citation page number 4483, column 1, paragraph 3, it is understood that a Target genome has to be specified at the beginning itself. In other words, without knowing the target genome, you cannot perform the process disclosed in the citation. In contrast, in the present application, the target sites are identified at the end of the process and no knowledge of the target sites is needed at the beginning of the process.
- e. The nomenclature of the proteins tested in the present application are the same as that of the international database. A person of ordinary skill in the art seeking to perform this technique [over an unknown protein], can do so with the details disclosed in the present application. In contrast, the names of the sequences disclosed in the cited document (table 4) will not allow collection of the details of the desired sequence from the public domain, thus the methods of the citation can only be performed after collecting the details from the authors of the citation.

5. I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed true; and further that these statements were made with knowledge that wilful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such wilful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Debasis Dash

Signed: Debasis Dash

Date: 03/12/2008